

" There are, of course, individual variations in actual behaviour, and each child relapses at times to earlier modes of reaction. The conditions under which a child's social behaviour often falls noticeably below his usual standard are, when he is tired, when he is incubating a disease, when recovering from an illness, and after an emotional disturbance."

BRIDGES, p. 137. " A youngster who finds a task difficult or who fails to accomplish it may react to the situation by destroying *another's* work. Since he cannot show-off and assert himself by his own constructive efforts, his infuriated ego finds vent for itself in an act of derogation and destruction. An illustration, already referred to in connection with social development, may be found in the situation where two children of unequal abilities are building blocks together. The less clever child desires to emulate the more skilful one, and on failure to do so he may knock down the other child's block construction. In the mental examining room it is fairly common for a child to knock down the examiner's model after failure to copy it."

2. GROUP HOSTILITY

a. *To Strangers and New-comers*

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21.11.24. A visitor was in the gallery and the children got a glimpse of her ; they rushed up the stairs to stare through the curtain and watch her, and shouted out, " Old lady, old lady."

3.3.25. Christopher had been away for some time, and all were hostile to him on his return. Paul said, " Wretched Christopher." Harold would not let Christopher look at his painting, shouting vigorously, " No, you shan't." Later, all the older ones, running round the room, said, " Horrid Christopher, horrid Christopher," as they ran. Christopher wanted to go into Harold's aeroplane, but Harold would not let him, and had Dan in.

9.3.25. A visitor had come into the schoolroom during the

morning, and Harold led the other children in
clustering round
her and saying with laughter, " Silly lady, silly
lady." This
appears to be his reaction to anything new and
strange, as he
and the other boys often say it about anything
new in Mrs. I.'s
dress or shoes. The boys were all very
interested in Jessica,
another visitor. At first sight they expressed
various hostile
intentions such as smacking her, kicking her,
etc., but this
very soon passed off, and she was very happy
amongst them*